

Appendix 12: Frequently Asked Questions

Q1: If a Recipient's grant is closed out, do they have to continue to report?

A1: Yes. As long as the funds remain in a Financing Program, they retain their federal character, and the Recipient must continue to report.

Q2: A Recipient determines that there is no longer demand for their residential RLF for energy efficiency upgrades. The Recipient would like to repurpose the funds for an energy audit and lighting upgrade of City Hall. What are the responsibilities of the Recipient?

A2: The Recipient must first perform an eligibility assessment to ensure that this is a permissible purpose under the terms and conditions of the award; and is an eligible EECBG activity. If the Recipient is unsure, they can reach out to DOE at EECBG@ee.doe.gov for guidance. If the activity is determined to be eligible under EECBG, the Recipient must then report to DOE their intention to repurpose the funds towards another eligible activity within 30 days of the action at EECBG@ee.doe.gov. If applicable, the Recipient should complete an EECBG NEPA worksheet to ensure that the project is covered by the Cx at EECBG@ee.doe.gov. Like all EECBG projects, the project will be subject to Buy American, Davis-Bacon and Historic Preservation requirements. As such, the Recipient must retain documentation sufficient to document compliance with these requirements for audit purposes. The Recipient must also continue to report on the utilization of award funds until they are fully expended and/or returned to the U.S. Treasury.

Q3: A Recipient determines that there is no longer demand for their residential RLF for energy efficiency upgrades, and would like to repurpose the funds. For what activities can the Recipient use the funds?

A3: The Recipient may utilize the funds for any eligible EECBG activity. If the Recipient is unsure whether an activity is eligible, they can reach out to DOE at EECBG@ee.doe.gov for guidance.

Q4: A Recipient has repurposed the funds to a building retrofit (or other eligible non-revolving activity). How long do they have to report?

A4: The Recipient must report until the funds are fully expended. *For example: if the Recipient begins the retrofit in September 2015 and completes it in November 2015 fully utilizing all of the funds they had initially for a Financing Program; the Recipient must complete an Annual Report & Historic*

Q5: A Recipient wants to give the remainder of the money back. How do they do that?

A5: The Recipient should contact EECBG@ee.doe.gov. A DOE employee will contact you to walk you through the process of returning the funds to the U.S. Treasury.

Q6: A Recipient has spent all of their funds and wants to close out. How do they do that?

A6: The Recipient should contact EECBG@ee.doe.gov. If the award has passed the end of its project period of performance, the Financial Assistance agreement may have been formally closed out in FedConnect by the DOE procurement office. For Recipients who continued to conduct financing programs after the project end date, certain completion requirements still apply when the programs conclude. A DOE employee will contact you to walk you through the process of submitting final documentation to DOE. You will be required to submit a final Annual Report, and you should be prepared to provide documentation of all expenditures and any remaining funds.

Q7. A Recipient wants to transfer responsibility for ongoing EECBG Financing Programs to another entity. Is this allowed?

A7. For recipients of the EECBG Formula awards, any other entity assuming responsibility for a Financing Program must have been an eligible entity/direct recipient under the original EECBG formula allocation. For competitive EECBG recipients selected under DE-FOA-0000148, any entity assuming responsibility for a Financing Program must have been an eligible entity under the FOA Topic under which the original award and selection was made (For example, if the original awardee was selected under FOA Topic 2 (General Innovation Competitive Grants), the transferee must also have been an eligible entity as stipulated under Topic 2). As stated in Section V, above, “Maintaining Point of Contact,” any change in point of contact must be reported to DOE.

***Note:** The original award recipient is ultimately responsible for reporting and compliance regardless of any subsequent transfers.*

Q8: Where can a Recipient find guidance on the National Environmental Policy Act?

A8: In addition to the information provided in the letter above, the Recipient should review the guidance in Appendices 3 and 4. If the Recipient needs further assistance, they should reach out to DOE at EECBG@ee.doe.gov for guidance.

Q9: Where can a Recipient find guidance on the Davis Bacon Act?

A9: In addition to the information provided in the letter above, the Recipient should review the guidance in Appendices 5 and 6. If the Recipient needs further assistance, they should reach out to DOE at EECBG@ee.doe.gov for guidance.

Q10: Where does a Recipient find guidance on the Historic Preservation Act?

A10: In addition to the information provided in this letter, the Recipient should review the guidance in Appendix 7, and the guidance of the Office of General Counsel at <http://energy.gov/gc/action-center-office-general-counsel/faqs-related-recovery-act/historic-preservation>. If the Recipient needs further assistance, they should reach out to DOE at EECBG@ee.doe.gov for guidance.

Q11: Where can a Recipient find guidance on the Buy American Provisions?

A11: In addition to the information provided in the letter above, the Recipient should review the guidance at Appendix 8. If the Recipient needs further assistance, they should reach out to DOE at EECBG@ee.doe.gov for guidance.